

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 4, 5, and 7 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 3, 6, and 8 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A variable optical delay line comprising:
a plurality of fibers, each fiber having a first end disposed in a first linear array and a second end disposed in a second linear array, each fiber comprising a first parallel region, a curved region, and a second parallel region; region, wherein the first parallel regions of the fibers are parallel to each other, the second parallel regions of the fibers are parallel to each other other, and the curved regions of respective fibers differing differ in radii of curvature to provide a series of monotonically differing path lengths; and
an optical switch for switching at least one optical input signal among the fibers of the plurality,

wherein each fiber includes a plurality of separately switchable reflectors
that are switchable between reflection and transmission to provide coarse delay increments.

2. (Original) The delay line of claim 1 wherein the optical switch comprises a MEMs mirror optical switch.

3. (Currently Amended) The delay line of claim 1 wherein ~~the at least one reflective element comprises each fiber includes~~ a reflective Bragg grating.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The delay line of claim 5 wherein a claim 3 wherein the reflective element in each path comprises a Bragg grating is formed in the second parallel region.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The delay line of claim 1 wherein the plurality of optical fiber paths comprise a plurality of optical fibers are secured to a substrate of sheet material.

9. (Original) The delay line of claim 1 wherein the at least one optical input signal is one optical input signal and the optical switch comprises a 1XN MEMs mirror optical switch.

10. (Original) The delay line of claim 1 wherein the at least one optical input signal comprises a plurality of optical input signals and the optical switch comprises an NXN MEMs mirror optical switch.

11. (Original) The delay line of claim 1 wherein the at least one optical input signal comprises a plurality of optical input signals having respectively different wavelengths.